

Message Text

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ACTION ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 OES-06 ACDA-07 NRC-05 CIAE-00

INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 FEAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 684

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 19725

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, TECH, TH

SUBJECT: ATOMIC ENERGY PHYSICAL SECURITY

REF: STATE 170956

1. UPGRADING OF PHYSICAL SECURITY AT OAEP IS UNDERWAY, BUT NOT YET COMPLETE. COMPLETION IS DEPENDENT IN PART ON PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL OF RTG'S FY 77 BUDGET. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS SINCE DEPARTURE OF ERDA TEAM IS AS FOLLOWS:

2. ON FEBRUARY 18, COMMERCIAL ATTACHE STAVE AND SECURITY OFFICER KELLY CALLED ON DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF BANGKOK METROPOLITAN POLICE, DESCRIBED ERDA'S INTEREST IN PHYSICAL SECURITY UPGRADING AT OAEP, AND LEFT WITH HIM COPY OF ERDA TEAM'S RECOMMENDATIONS. DEPUTY COMMISSIONER PLEDGED COOPERATION, AND SENT TEAM OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE DEPT. (CID) SECURITY TECHNICIANS TO OAEP SITE TO CONDUCT INSPECTION AND INTERVIEW PERSONNEL. CID THEN COMPILED COMPREHENSIVE AND DETAILED REPORT WITH RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SECURITY UPGRADING WHICH WENT WELL BEYOND THOSE MADE BY ERDA. RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDED SUCH MEASURES AS NEW EXTERIOR FENCE, ADDITIONAL LIGHTING, TRAINING OF SECURITY GUARDS, CONTROL OF VISITORS AND VEHICLES, FIRE PROTECTION, AND ALARM SYSTEMS.

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3. DURING MAY, EMBASSY OFFICERS ATTEMPTED ARRANGEMENTS FOR INSPECTION

TO EVALUATE PROGRESS, BUT THIS WAS NECESSARILY DELAYED BECAUSE OF EXTENDED ABSENCE FROM BANGKOK OF BOTH OAEP SECRETARY GENERAL KRIVUTI AND DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL SOBHAKPONG, WHO WERE PARTICIPATING IN IAEA MEETINGS AT VIENNA, AND NOT RETURNING UNTIL JUNE 28. ON JULY 7, STAVE AND KELLY VISITED OAEP, MET WITH OFFICIALS AND CONDUCTED INSPECTION. FOLLOWING IS CURRENT STATUS:

A. SECURITY PERSONNEL: OAEP HAS DESIGNATED AN ACTING SECURITY OFFICER AND DEPUTY, WHOSE APPOINTMENTS WILL BE MADE PERMANENT. A REQUEST TO RTG HAS BEEN MADE FOR TWO ADDITIONAL SECURITY GUARDS (TO BRING TOTAL TO TEN); KRIVUTI IS QUOTE NINETY PERCENT SURE UNQUOTE THESE WILL BE APPROVED IN NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET NOW AWAITING PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL. CANDIDATES FOR NEW GUARD POSITIONS WILL BE SUBJECT TO CID INVESTIGATION.

B. COLD FUEL STORAGE ROOM: A STEEL INNER DOOR WITH INNER HINGES HAS BEEN ADDED TO WOODEN DOOR, BUT ALARM NOT YET INSTALLED. BECAUSE STEEL IN NEW DOOR IS VERY THIN, SECURITY OFFICER KELLY RECOMMENDED ADDITIONAL HEAVY STEEL PLATE BE WELDED TO METAL DOOR; KRIVUTI AGREED THIS WILL BE DONE.

C. VISITOR CONTROL: OAEP HAS INITIATED NEW MEASURES TO CONTROL VISITORS THROUGH USE OF BADGES.

D. ALARM: A THREE PART ALARM SYSTEM IS TO BE INSTALLED, ONE TO BE AT FUEL STORAGE ROOM DOOR, ONE AT DOOR TO REACTOR ROOM, AND ONE AT ENTRANCE TO AIR-LOCK CHAMBER, ALL TO CONNECT WITH MAIN GUARD STATION. ON CID RECOMMENDATION, ORIGINALLY PLANNED MECHANICAL ALARM SYSTEM NOW BEING REDESIGNED TO UTILIZE SHORT WAVE, TO REDUCE VULNERABILITY.

E. LIGHTING: TWO NEW EXTERIOR LIGHTS HAVE BEEN INSTALLED TO PROVIDE BETTER ILLUMINATION AT REAR OF REACTOR BUILDING.

F. COMMUNICATIONS WITH POLICE: THESE ARRANGEMENTS HAVE NOT YET BEEN MADE. HOWEVER, FOLLOWING JULY 7 MEETING, SECURITY OFFICER KELLY AGAIN CONTACTED DEPUTY POLICE COMMISSIONER, WHO AGREED TAKE NECESSARY ACTION FOLLOWING WRITTEN REQUEST FROM OAEP. LETTER HAS NOW BEEN SENT BY OAEP SECRETARY
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GENERAL, WHICH IS EXPECTED TO LEAD TO OAEP'S BEING ABLE TO USE POLICE RADIO CHANNELS, AND COMMUNICATION WITH MOBILE POLICE PATROLS.

G. TRANSPORTATION OF NUCLEAR FUELS: DETAILED PLANS FOR TRANSPORT OF NUCLEAR FUELS FROM AIRPORT TO OAEP HAVE NOT YET BEEN MADE, PENDING RECEIPT OF GENERAL ATOMIC'S SCHEDULE ON DELIVERY OF TRIGA MARK III RESEARCH REACTOR AND NUCLEAR FUELS

AND INFORMATION ON HOW THESE WILL BE SHIPPED (SEE BELOW).
OAEP REPS, ALTHOUGH WANTING TO MAINTAIN LOW PROFILE AT SUCH
TIME AS DELIVERY IS MADE, FORESEE NO DIFFICULTY IN ARRANGING
FOR SEALED VAN AND ARMED POLICE ESCORT. OAEP GAVE ASSURANCES
OF COMPLIANCE WITH IAEA GUIDELINES. LICENSE FOR IMPORT OF
FUEL HAS BEEN ISSUED.

H. FENCE: OAEP HAS IN PENDING BUDGET PROVISION FOR
INSTALLATION OF NEW EXTERIOR CEMENT AND MESHED WIRE FENCE.

4. WITH RESPECT TO EXISTING CRUTIS-WRIGHT REACTOR, PLANS ARE
STILL IN EFFECT TO REINSTALL IT IN REACTOR SPENT FUEL POOL,
BUT THIS WILL NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL AFTER INSTALLATION OF TRIGA
REACTOR. THE POOL HAS BEEN REPAIRED TO PERMIT INSTALLATION
OF TRIGA REACTOR. OAEP HOPES TRIGA REACTOR CAN BE INSTALLED
AND CURTIS-WRIGHT REACTOR REINSTALLED BY END OF THIS YEAR OR
EARLY 1977.

5. COMMENT: OAEP'S SCHEDULING IS DEPENDENT ON GENERAL
ATOMIC'S PLANS, WHICH IN TURN ARE EVIDENTLY DEPENDENT ON
LATTER'S OBTAINING APPROVAL FOR REACTOR APPLICATION. EMBASSY
CAN CONFIRM THAT PHYSICAL SECURITY UPGRADING IS UNDERWAY.
PHOTOGRAPHS WERE TAKEN BY EMBASSY DURING JULY 7 INSPECTION,
WITH FILM SENT TO U.S. FOR PROCESSING. UPON RECEIPT PRINTS,
THESE WILL BE SENT TO ERDA FOR ITS INFORMATION. EMBASSY
INTENDS TO INSPECT ERDA SITE AGAIN, FOLLOWING APPROVAL OF
RTG BUDGET, AND WILL REPORT ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS.
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